# ARTICLES

OF

## Visitation *and* Enquiry

Concerning

## Matters Ecclesiastical,

EXHIBITED

To the *Ministers*, *Church-Wardens*, and *Sides-Men* of every Parish,

AT THE

# VISITATION

OF THE

## Diocess of *WINCHESTER*,

By the Right Reverend Father in GOD,

*Jonathan*, Lord Bishop of *Winchester*,

In the Year of Our LORD, 1714.

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*LONDON*,

Printed by *B. Mills*, in the Year 1714.

# The *Tenor* of the *OATH* of the *Church-Wardens* and *Sides-Men.*

YOU ſhall Swear, that you, and every of you, ſhall faithfully Execute your ſeveral Offices of *Church-Wardens* and *Sides-Men*, according to the beſt of your Skill, and Knowledge.

*So help you* GOD.

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# ARTICLES
OF
# INSTRUCTION,
FOR
# Visitation *and* Enquiry, &c.

## Tit. I.

*Concerning* Churches, Chappels, *with the* Ornaments *and* Furnitures *thereunto belonging*:

1. IS your Parish-Church, or Chappel, in good and sufficient Repair, both for the Roof, Windows, Floor, and Seats? *Can.* 85.

2. Has any Part of your Church, Chappel, or Steeple been demolish'd, or pull'd down? what Part, and how long since? Or any of the Lead, Timber, or Bells thereunto belonging, any way imbezled, or sold, and by whom?

3. Is there a decent Font of Stone, with a Cover? Does the Minister Baptize publickly only at the Font? unless the *Rubrick* allows the contrary. Is there a decent Communion-Table in your Chancel, with a decent Carpet, and another Covering of White Linnen, to be spread thereon at the Time of the Administration of the Lord's-Supper? And 82.
have you a fair Chalice, or Communion-Cup with a Cover, and a Pattin for the Bread, and one or more Flaggons? have they been profan'd by common Use?

4. Have you a convenient Seat, or Pew, wherein to Read Divine Service, a Pulpit with a decent Cloth and Cushion, 20.

82. a large Bible of the laſt Tranſlation, and a Book of Com-
83. mon-Prayer (Eſtabliſh'd by the late Act of *Uniformity*) the
80. Homilies ſet forth by Authority, and a Printed Table of the
99. Degrees wherein Marriages are prohibited, and a Book of
*Stat.* Canons and Conſtitutions Eccleſiaſtical, and a decent Sur-
plice and Hood, provided and waſh'd at the Pariſh Charge?

83. 5. Have you a Regiſter-Book in Parchment of Chriſten-
87. ings, Burials, and Marriages? and is the ſame duly kept,
70. and the Tranſcript return'd ev'ry Year into the Biſhop's
Regiſtry?

6. Have you a Book of Paper, or Parchment, to record
25. the Names and Licences of ſuch Strangers as are admitted
to Preach in your Church or Chappel? and do ſuch Stran-
gers ſubſcribe their Names? as alſo a Book for the Church-
Wardens Accounts? as alſo a Cheſt with Locks and Keys,
wherein to keep the ſaid Books, and the afore-mention'd
Furniture? and are the ſaid Books carefully look'd to, and
made Uſe of?

7. Have you a Bier, and a black Herſe-Cloth for the
more decent Burial of the Dead.

## TIT. II.

### *Concerning the* Church-Yard, *the* Houſes, Glebes, *and* Tythes *belonging to the* Church.

1. IS your Church-Yard ſufficiently fenc'd, and decently kept? has any Perſon encroach'd upon the ſame, or made any Door in it? and how long ſince?

2. Is the Houſe of your Parſon, Vicar, or Curate, and the Out-houſes in good Repair? have any of them been defac'd or pull'd down without Licence? have there been any Encroachments made upon the ſame? or any of the Ancient Marks, or Bounds remov'd, or chang'd? and by whom?

*Can.* 87. 3. Have you a true and perfect Terrier of all the Glebe-lands, Gardens, Orchards, Tenements, or Cottages belonging to your Parſonage, or Vicarage? as alſo a Note of ſuch Penſions, Rate-Tythes, and Portions of Tythes, or other yearly Profits (either within or without your Pariſh) as belonging thereunto? Have any of the ſame been with-

held

held from your Minister? and by whom? as you know, and have heard.

4. Have any of the ancient Glebe-lands belonging to your Parsonage, or Vicarage, been alienated, taken away, or exchang'd for others, without the free Consent of the Incumbent, and Patron, and Licence from the Ordinary.

5. Has there been any Wood, or Timber cut down in the Church-yard? by whom, and when, and to what Uses employ'd?

## TIT. III.

### *Concerning* Ministers.

1. IS your Minister in Holy Orders, Episcopally ordain'd according to the Laws of the Church of *England?* And has he been Legally Inducted?

2. Is he Resident among you? how many Weeks hath he been absent from you without urgent Necessity?

3. Hath your Minister a Curate? Is he in Holy Orders, and conformable to the Laws of the Church?

4. Doth your Parson, Vicar, Curate, or Lecturer, if you have any, perform his Office in all Things according to the *Rubrick* of the Book of Common-Prayer lately establish'd, and the Act of Uniformity publish'd therewith? without either diminishing in regard of Preaching, or in any other respect, or adding any thing in the Matter of Form? *Can.* 47, 48. 14.

5. Doth your Minister at the Reading of Divine Service, or Administring the Sacraments, wear a Surplice and Hood? 58.

6. Doth he observe the Holidays and Fasting-Days, the Ember-Week, and the Yearly Perambulation of Rogation-Week, as is appointed by the *Rubrick.*

7. Is your Minister licens'd to Preach? if so, does he constantly (not having a reasonable Impediment) Preach one Sermon in your Church or Chappel every Sunday? or if he be not licens'd, or be hinder'd, does he procure one to supply his Office by Preaching, or Reading one of the *Homilies?* 45, 46, 47.

8. Does your Minister instruct the Youth in your Parish in the Church-Catechism, and prepare, and present them to the Bishop to be confirm'd? And does he endeavour to reclaim all profane Persons, Papists, and Sectaries? Have *Can.* 50. *Rub. before Confirm.*

you

you any Popiſh Prieſts in your Pariſh? and have they exercis'd any Miniſterial Function, as ſaying Maſs, Chriſtening Children, and the like? Or are there in your Pariſh any Popiſh Schools, or Seminaries? and who are the Prieſts and Teachers of them.

67. 69. 9. Does he neglect, or delay to viſit the Sick, or to Baptize any Infant that is in danger of Death? Does he Baptize any without God-fathers and God-mothers, or admit either of the Parents to be God-father or God-mother to their own Children?

62. 10. Has your Miniſter Marry'd any Perſons without Publiſhing the Banns on three Sundays or Holidays, unleſs he had a Licence, or Diſpenſation ſo to do? or has he Marry'd any in Private Houſes, on or between the Hours of 8 and 12 in the Morning?

75. 11. Is your Parſon, Vicar, Curate or Lecturer, a Man of a ſober Life and Converſation? or is his Carriage in any kind diſorderly, or ſcandalous, and unbeſeeming a Miniſter?

## TIT. IV.

### *Concerning the* Pariſhioners.

1. IS there any Perſon in your Pariſh, that lyes under a common Fame, or Suſpicion of Adultery, Fornication or Inceſt? or any other Enormous Crimes? Are there any common Drunkards within your Pariſh, or common Swearers, or Blaſphemers of God's Name, or any that are noted to be Railers, unclean or filthy Talkers, or Sowers of Sedition, Faction or Diſcord amongſt their Neighbours?

99. 107. *Expreſt in a Table ſet forth by Authority, Ann. Dom.* 1563. 2. Are there any Perſons of your Pariſh, who live together as Man and Wife, it not being known, where? or whether Marry'd? Or are there any Living in your Pariſh, who have been unlawfully Marry'd, contrary to the Laws of God?

*Rubr. Can.* 85. 3. Are there any that refuſe to pay their Duty for *Eaſter*-Offerings, or refuſe to contribute to the Rates made for the Repair of your Church or Chappel, or any thing thereunto belonging?

4. Are

4. Are there any Wills or Teſtaments of Perſons dead in your Pariſh, that be yet unprov'd? or any Goods adminiſtred without a due Grant from the Ordinary? did any dying in your Pariſh, or elſewhere, leave any Legacy to your Church or Chappel, or to the Uſe of the Poor, or to any other Pious and Charitable Purpoſes? What were thoſe Legacies? and how have they been beſtow'd? *Rubr.*

5. Is there any Striſe and Contention among any of your Pariſh for their Pews or Seats in your Church? Have any new Pews been erected in your Chancel, or in the Body of the Church or Chappel, without Leave from the Ordinary?

## TIT. V.

### *Concerning* Pariſh-Clerks *and* Sextons.

1. HAve you belonging to your Church or Chappel a Pariſh-Clerk, aged 21 Years at the leaſt? Is he of honeſt Life and Converſation? and ſufficient, or able to perform his Duty in Reading, Writing, and Singing? Is he choſen by your Miniſter, and licens'd by the Ordinary? and doth he duly attend him in all Divine Services at the Church? Are his Wages duly paid unto him? or who with-holdeth the ſame from him? *Can.* 91.

2. Does he diligently do his Duty in keeping the Church clean and decent, in Tolling and Ringing the Bells before Divine Service, and in all other Things belonging to his Office?

## TIT. VI.

### *Concerning School-Maſters, Schools, Phyſicians, Chyrurgions,* and *Mid-wives.*

1. DOes any Man keep a Publick, or Private School in your Pariſh, who is not allow'd thereunto by his Ordinary? *Can.* 77, 78.

2. Does any in your Pariſh practice Phyſick or Chyrurgery? Or any Woman take upon her to exerciſe the Office of a Mid-wife without Licence from the Ordinary?

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## TIT. VII.

### *Concerning* Church-Wardens *and* Sides-Men.

*Can.* 89. 1. ARE the Church-Wardens of your Pariſh yearly and duly choſen by the joint Conſent of your Miniſter and Pariſhioners? Or one of them by your Miniſter, and the other by the Pariſhioners? or as the Cuſtom of the Pariſh is?

2. Have the former and laſt Church-Wardens given up their Accounts to the Pariſh, and delivered up to the ſucceeding Church-Wardens the Monies remaining in their Hands; together with all other Things belonging to your Church or Chappel?

*Rubr. at Commun.* 3. You are further to underſtand, That according to your Office, you are to provide againſt every Communion appointed in your Church or Chappel, a ſufficient Quantity of fine white Bread, and of good Wine, according to the Number of Communicants, at the Charges of the Pariſh.

## TIT. VIII.

### *Concerning* Eccleſiaſtical Officers.

1. HAve any Officers, that exerciſe Eccleſiaſtical Juriſdiction in this Dioceſs, taken any Bribe, or Reward, for the Concealment or Impunity of Delinquents.

2. Have the Apparitors ſummon'd any Perſons unlawfully, giv'n in falſe Returns, or taken Rewards for Concealment, or otherwiſe misbehav'd themſelves in their Office.

*YOU are alſo to exhibit a Bill of Preſentments to this Court, of the Offenders in your Pariſh, and therein to take the Aſſiſtance of your Miniſter.*

*FINIS.*

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*Advertiſement.*

1. THE Miniſter of every Pariſh may join in Preſentments with the *Church-Wardens* and *Sides-Men*, and if they fail to preſent, the Miniſters themſelves (who have the higheſt Obligations to endeavour the Suppreſſing of Impiety and Diſorder) may, and ought to do it.

2. If you know of any Monument, or Vault, that is erected, or made in your Church, or Church-yard, without the Approbation and Licence of the *Ordinary*, you are requir'd to preſent them to the Court.